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German Democratic Republic

FDD Abstract

DIA-METALL IMPORT PROBLEMS (5 pp; German; 8-15 Mar 52)

This 5-page document consists of the minutes of two meetings held in the import division of DIA-Metall (Intra-German and Foreign Trade Agency for Metals).

1. Minutes of the 8 March 1952 meeting

Hitze, who is in charge of procuring items required for reparations, must notify the DIA offices concerned of his requirements for reparations; this measure is designed to put the offices in a position to identify these goods clearly in the DMZ-M (German Trade Center for Metals) ~~minimize~~ purchase orders. Items required for reparations must be given top priority and daily reports on realization of the goods must be submitted to the Office for Reparations.

Subcontracts with DMZ-M are of great urgency; they must be concluded regardless of existing import contracts which were concluded as a re-insurance.

Special ledgers must be maintained for payments and subsidies.

According to instructions from the State Secretary of the Ministry of Intra-German and Foreign Trade, the DMZ-M will take over imports. GDR enterprises will receive the goods from the DMZ-M.

In future, ships arriving from Western countries will be unloaded in Rostock without any hindrance, according to information from DERUTRA (German-Soviet Transportation Agency). Reports of incoming goods must be submitted to DMZ-M Rostock ~~substantiated~~ or Schwerin early enough to put the DMZ in a position to make arrangements for reshipment.

The question which risks are to be included in the insurance policies with the Scharsmeer-Ostsee (Black-Sea-Baltic) [Company], e.g. confiscation risk, ~~are~~ to be clarified within the next week.

2. Minutes of the 15 March 1952 meeting

Plan fulfillment, as of 29 February 1952, was extremely unsatisfactory. In spite of adequate contracts, imports from Western countries are lagging behind because of insufficient financing. Barter transactions in close collaboration with DIA Compensation and other DIA departments must be given intensive consideration.

The difficulties resulting from the confiscation of foreign accounts by ~~known~~ Americans will be overcome. — Although contracts with Western countries are inopportune at this time, except in special cases such as for reparations, special programs, etc., Western offers should be collected for future reference.

Cash transactions in intra-German trade need no longer be handled through Maletex ~~exclusive~~ ly. — The frequent errors in transshipment at Brest [Poland] will be eliminated shortly through a special commission. — According to a ruling by the State Planning Commission, DIA Metall will receive only those subsidies which are provided for under the plan.

Foreign language document or microfilm of it is available from CIA Library.

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